<center>**REMARKS**</center>

Introduction

Claims 1-3, 7, 8, 15, 29 and 32 have been amended. Claims 4, 6, 13, 18 and 20 have been canceled. The application now includes claims 1-3, 7-11, 14-17, 21 and 29-34.

Applicants thank the Examiner for taking the time to conduct a personal interview with the Applicants' representative on September 15, 2009. The substance of the interview is reflected in this Amendment. Reconsideration of the rejection of the application is respectfully requested in view of the claim amendments and the following remarks.

The Claims Recite Essential Elements

Claims 1, 8 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being incomplete for omitting essential elements. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in view of the claim amendments.

The Claims are Allowable over the Prior Art

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-18, 20, 21 and 29-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Murray et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,874,134 ("Murray") further in view of Bohrer et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,106,569 ("Bohrer") and in view of Lowry et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,9580,866 ("Lowry"). Reconsideration of these rejections is respectfully requested because the prior art fails to disclose extensions as recited in the present claims.

One embodiment, as disclosed by Applicants, is a computer-based extendable application framework that includes a plurality of extensions to extend an application. *See, e.g.,* paragraph [0020] of the Applicants' specification, as well as Fig. 1. An extension includes a set of classes programmed in an object oriented language. *See, e.g.,* paragraph [0020] of the Applicants' specification, as well as Fig. 1. An extension may expose and consume services associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions. *See, e.g.,* paragraphs [0020] and [0023] of the Applicants' specification. More specifically, the services are consumed by an extension's classes. *See, e.g.,* paragraph [0023] of the Applicants' specification. The extension may include an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description. *See,* e.g., Fig. 1 and paragraph [0020] of the Applicants' specification. The XML description is scanned for code fragments to be passed to handlers defined for a particular attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions. *See, e.g.,* paragraph [0024] of the Applicants' specification. The computer-based extendable application framework advantageously allows extensions to create an extendable infrastructure in which other extensions can participate. *See, e.g.,* paragraph [0024] of the Applicants' specification.

The prior art fails to disclose the recited features of the presented invention. For example, Murray discloses a system in which files describing the extension files are downloaded on the client. These files tell the client where the extension is to be plugged in, as well as to where to find the appropriate extension files and how to download them. The extension files are then downloaded and incorporated into the program or platform. *See, e.g.* Murray at Abstract. However, Murray does not disclose

"at least an extension that includes an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description, wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments to be passed to handlers defined for a particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions." Murray further does not disclose an XML description that "comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that each may describe a different type of extension". Additional limitations of the present claims are also not disclosed in Murray or the other cited prior art.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request favorable action in connection with this application.

The Examiner is invited and urged to contact the undersigned to discuss any matter concerning this application.

No fee should be required for this submission. However, should any fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

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